



Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2004

Vol. 4, No. 77

Launch window for Discovery on mission STS-114 is May 12 to June 3, 2005

Swift launch moves to mid-November or later

▲ **Shuttle Update:** Powered-up orbiter system testing in the Orbiter Processing Facility continues to progress on schedule for **Discovery's** future Return to Flight mission, STS-114, to the Inter-national Space Station. The Space Flight Leadership Council met Friday and determined the new launch planning window is May 12 to June 3, 2005.

Technicians continue testing and checkout of both the Remote Manipulator System, or Space Shuttle robotic arm, and the starboard manipulator positioning mechanisms. Installation of the new wing leading edge sensors and relay units continues. Ku-band target tracking tests are complete.

On **Atlantis**, with all radiators mounted for flight, technicians completed installation of the radiators' flex hoses in support of orbiter power-up. Work is progressing well with the flex hose conversion to hard lines in the waste water management system, and the flex hose modifications in the potable waste water system.

Flex hoses are used throughout the vehicle for numerous purposes where there is movement between two fixed ends, or where flexibility is desired for ease of installation and/or replacement.

▲ **ELV Update:** The Swift launch has been tentatively rescheduled for no earlier than Nov. 17 from Cape

Canaveral Air Force Station. During its 2-year mission, Swift is expected to observe more than 200 gamma-ray bursts – the most comprehensive study of GRB afterglows to date.

Gamma-ray bursts are the most powerful explosions the Universe has seen since the big bang. They occur approximately once per day and are brief, but intense, flashes of gamma radiation.

Swift's three instruments will give scientists the ability to scrutinize GRBs like never before. Within seconds of detecting a burst, Swift will relay a burst's location to ground stations, allowing both ground-based and space-based telescopes around the world the opportunity to observe the burst's afterglow.

■ **Yoplait – Save Lids to Save Lives.**® The Space Coast Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) is still **collecting pink Yoplait lids during November**. For each pink lid mailed in by consumers by year-end, Yoplait will donate 10 cents to the Komen Foundation (up to \$1.2 million). FEW needs your assistance in collecting as many **Yoplait lids** as possible before the Dec. 10 deadline. Please drop your Yoplait lids off to one of the following:

HQ Building: Karen Jansma, Room 2488; Barb Powell, Room 2451;

Vickie Hall, Room 2640F; Dawn Partlow, Room 3169D; Jane Eitel, Room 3549A. **O&C Building:** Becky Fasulo, Room 2038; **OSB Building:** Jane Drinkhouse-Demars, Room 1405; Sandy Shaheen, Room 6403N. **SSPF Building:** Vanessa Stroh, Room 3074L; **SLSL (M6-1025):** Betty Valentine, Room 102-10; **or mail to:** FEW - Space Coast Chapter, P.O. Box 21201, Kennedy Space Center, FL 32815.

■ **Science Fair Judges Still Needed** — Judges are still needed for the following schools: Roosevelt Elementary, Cambridge Elementary, Challenger 7 Elementary, Suntree Elementary, Fairglen Elementary, Enterprise Elementary and Manatee Elementary. So, if you meant to sign up but forgot to, there's still a chance to add this worthy cause to your 2004 GPES! Get your supervisor's permission first, and contact patricia.j.gillis@nasa.gov.

■ **Did You Know?** Before 1801, male guests at a White House reception bowed stiffly to the president. Thomas Jefferson introduced the custom of a handshake on July 4 of that year.

James Madison, in office from 1809 to 1817, was the first president to regularly wear long trousers instead of knee breeches.